

P-PWU-431/WO/US (preliminary amendment)

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ATTACHMENT A - CLEAN COPY

Please add the following new claims:

B

23. A process for treatment of gases that are exhausted through a sinter bed in a sintering plant, wherein a distinction can be made between a cold zone of the  
5 sintering plant with relatively low gas temperatures and a hot zone of said sintering plant with substantially higher gas temperatures, said process comprising the steps of:

separately exhausting said gases from said cold zone and from said hot zone, so as to obtain a partial flow from said cold zone and a partial flow  
10 from said hot zone;

subjecting said partial flow from said cold zone and said partial flow from said hot zone to a separate treatment;

wherein the treatment of said partial flow from said hot zone includes:

heating said partial flow from said hot zone in a CO-catalyzer by burning CO gas contained therein; and  
15

subsequently treating said partial flow from said hot zone in a catalyzer for reducing hydrocarbons, in particular dioxins and furanes, contained therein.

24. The process according to claim 23, wherein said treatment of said partial  
20 flow from said cold zone of said sintering plant consists of a dust removal treatment.

25. The process according to claim 24, wherein said dust removal treatment of said partial flow from said cold zone takes place in one or more electric or filtering separators.

25 26. The process according to claim 23, wherein said partial flow from said hot zone of said sintering plant first undergoes a dust removal treatment before it is introduced into said CO-catalyzer.

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Cont.

27. The process according to claim 25, wherein said dust removal treatment of said partial flow from said hot zone takes place in one or more electric or filtering separators.

28. The process according to claim 23, wherein said partial flow from said hot zone of said sintering plant is additionally subjected to a NOx reducing treatment.

29. The process according to claim 28, wherein said NOx reducing treatment comprises injection of NH3 into said partial flow from said hot zone of said sintering plant.

10 30. The process according to claim 23, wherein said partial flow from said hot zone of said sintering plant has a mixing temperature of more than 180°C and said partial flow from said cold zone a mixing temperature of less than 100°C.

31. The process according to claim 23, wherein the dioxin and furan content in the partial flow from the cold zone is less than 0.5 ng/m3 N.T.P.

15 32. The process according to claim 23, wherein the two partial flows are approximately the same size under standard conditions.

33. The process according to claim 23, wherein said partial flow from said hot zone is exhausted by a fan through an electric or filtering separator, said fan being arranged upstream of said CO-catalyzer.

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BOX PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 24913

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Group Art Unit: 1754

Karl-Rudolf HEGEMANN et al.

Examiner: E. Johnson

Serial No.: 10/090,018

Date Filed: February 28, 2002

For: METHOD OF TREATING GASES ISSUED FROM A SINTERING PLANT

LETTER TO EXAMINER AND REQUEST FOR ADMISSION OF PRELIMINARY  
AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
Attention: Examiner Edward Johnson

Dear Examiner Johnson:

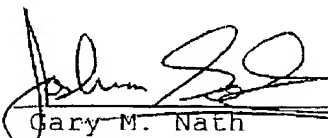
Further to our telephone conversation on October 23, 2002 and in accordance with your instructions, a Preliminary Amendment cancelling claims 1-22 and adding new claims 23-33 is herewith submitted.

In addition, a request for Refund is submitted for the excess claims fees for the claims that are herewith eliminated by the preliminary amendment. Please credit the excess claims fees to deposit account 14-0112.

It is respectfully requested that the Preliminary Amendment be duly entered. Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned attorney .

NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC

By:

  
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Date: October 24, 2002  
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Patent, Trademark and Copyright Causes  
Unfair Competition, Trade Secrets,  
Licensing and Litigation

\*Practice limited to Matters and Proceedings before  
Federal Courts and Agencies; not Admitted in DC

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++ Limited Rep. at USPTO

**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

TO: **U.S. Patent and Trademark Office**  
Group Art Unit: 1754  
**Attn: Ms. Palestine Jenkins**  
**Examiner: Mr. Edward Johnson** 11X  
Facsimile: 703-872-9579

Date: December 4, 2002

FROM: **Nath & Associates**, U.S. Filing Dept., Deberah Dean  
Attorney: Joshua B. Goldberg

RE: U.S. Application No. 10/090,018  
Inventor(s): HEGEMANN et al.  
Atty Docket No.: 24913

NO. OF PAGES (including this page): 8

**COMMENTS AND/OR SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:**

Attached, please find a copy of the Preliminary Amendment filed October 29, 2002 along with a request for refund. Please telephone or mail acknowledgment of entry of Preliminary Amendment and Refund. Thank you.

SHOULD ANY DIFFICULTIES BE INCURRED WITH THE RECEIPT OF THIS FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION (IN WHOLE OR IN PART), PLEASE CONTACT THE SENDER AT THE ABOVE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR RETRANSMISSION.

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GMN/JBG/ddj

## BOX PATENT

FILING RECEIPT

Attorney Docket No. 24913

Date: October 29, 2002

Attorney: GMN/TLJ

Inventors: HEGEMANN et al.

Serial No. 10/090,018

Filed: February 28, 2002

Title: METHOD OF TREATING GASES ISSUED FROM A SINTERING PLANT

## DOCUMENTS BEING FILED:

THE PTO STAMP HEREON ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF:

- (1) Transmittal Letter;
- (2) Letter to Examiner and Request for Admission of Preliminary Amendment;
- (3) Preliminary Amendment with Attachment A to be examined;
- (4) Request for Refund.

NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC  
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## FILE CHECK

Prepared by: JBG/ADApproved by: JBGCopy reviewed: ddFiled by: [Signature]

GMN/JBG/dd:requestforPreAmendtoBeExamTerd2.FILREC



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Attorney Docket No. 24913

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Group Art Unit: 1754

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Examiner: Edward Johnson

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
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Dear Examiner Johnson:

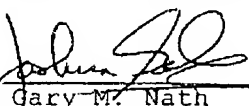
Submitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark  
Office is the following:

- (1) Transmittal Letter;
- (2) Letter to Examiner and Request for Admission of Preliminary  
Amendment;
- (3) Preliminary Amendment with Attachment A to be examined;
- (4) Request for Refund.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or  
credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-0112.

Respectfully submitted,  
NATH & ASSOCIATES PLLC

By:

  
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